

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application and have been restricted. Applicant elects Species 1, figures 1-3, claim 1, with traverse. However, this election is being made without prejudice to Applicant's rights with respect to claims 2-35, including the right to file divisional applications thereon.

Applicants also note that no "serious burden" is present in examining the small number of claims 2-35 as well, and cite the following:

803 Restriction - When Proper

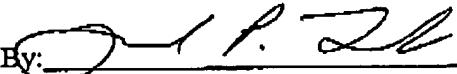
Under the statute an application may properly be required to be restricted to one of two or more claimed inventions only if they are able to support separate patents and they are either independent (MPEP § 806.04 - § 806.04(i)) or distinct (MPEP § 806.05 - § 806.05(i)).

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made *without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.*

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested. Consideration and allowance of claim 1 is also requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to this office action.

If there are any charges with respect to this amendment, or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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